Application No. 09/139,296

The present application is a continuation of the application that ultimately issued as Ohtomo et al. Accordingly, the present application has the same U.S. filing date (June 14, 1995) as Ohtomo et al. Thus, Ohtomo et al. is not prior art against the present application under any section of 35 U.S.C. §102. Withdrawal of the rejection in view Ohtomo et al. is requested.

III. CLAIMS COPIED FROM U.S. PATENT NO. 5,767,948

As noted in the Amendment filed December 22, 1998, claims 28 and 30 substantially correspond to claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,767,948, and claims 29 and 31 substantially correspond to claim 14 of that patent.

IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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